

Library Levy 2013 Annual Report

March 18, 2014

Seattle City Council
Parks, Seattle Center, Libraries and
Gender Pay Equity Committee

- Open hours cut
- Book budget cut
- Aging computers
- Maintenance cuts



The Seattle Public Library

**LIBRARY
CLOSED**

Aug. 27–Sept. 3
Due to budget cuts

Limited access to the catalog and online resources will be available. Go to www.spl.org

The book drop at this branch closes at 5 p.m. Aug. 25 and reopens at 9:30 a.m. Sept. 4

- Do not leave Library books and materials outside the building during the closure. You will be responsible for theft, loss or damage to Library materials.
- No items will be due and no fines charged or accrued during the closed week.
- If you have book donations, please call the Friends Book Sale Office at 206-523-4053 or e-mail book.sale@spl.org.

Libraries will resume regular hours on Tuesday, Sept. 4

Branch Sunday Closed

- August 2012
- 63% approval
- \$123 million seven-year levy



4 Levy Components:

- Keep libraries open when patrons need them
- Provide a robust collection of books and materials
- Improve computer and online services
- Maintain buildings for the next generation

Key Measurements

| | 2012 | 2013 | % Change |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|----------|
| Total Open Hours | 63,597 | 70,148 | +10% |
| Total In-Person Visits | 6,470,116 | 6,734,655 | +4% |
| Total Online Visits | 7,120,945 | 7,214,323 | +1% |
| Total Physical Material Circulation | 10,427,742 | 10,587,833 | +2% |
| Total Digital Circulation | 1,007,560 | 1,268,347 | +26% |
| Total # of Public Internet Sessions | 1,329,421 | 1,359,378 | +2% |
| Total # of Programs | 7,023 | 8,221 | +17% |
| Total # of Program Attendees | 226,380 | 261,044 | +15% |
| New Library Card Sign Ups | 53,406 | 57,878 | +8% |

Sundays at the Library

“I am super-stoked that we can all visit the library on Sundays again!”

– *Library patron via email*



Hours = Access

2013 Accomplishments

- Opened all Library locations on Sundays
- Expanded Columbia and Northgate branches from 5 to 7 days
- Eliminated week-long closure of entire Library system
- Restored reference staff at all libraries
- Increased security staff to help ensure libraries are safe and comfortable
- Improved computer assistance at Central Library
- Improved reference service in the Seattle Room

More holds, shorter waits

“It’s like we celebrate our birthday 50 times a year with our weekly pick-up of Library holds.”

– Southwest Branch patron



Collections = Quality

2013 Accomplishments

- Increased the variety and depth of the physical collection
- Added new e-books and e-audiobooks
- Bought more copies of popular materials to shorten wait times
- Added Hoopla, a video and music streaming service with thousands of films, TV series and albums
- Added Zinio, a digital newsstand with over 150 online magazines
- Digitized more materials from local history collections
- Increased number of items a patron can put on hold from 25 to 50

Thanks for new computers

“Thank you for the upgrade of the computers at the Delridge Branch Library. It is great to see the new money being used and in an excellent way.”

– *Delridge Branch patron*



Technology = Opportunity

2013 Accomplishments

- Replaced and upgraded all Internet computers for the public
- Replaced and upgraded public printers at most locations
- Established a Marketing and Online Services division to improve access to digital resources

2013 Spending - \$1 million

Preserving our assets

“Our libraries are an investment in our future, and are a source of pride for our community. Thank you for protecting our investment.”

– *Central Library patron*



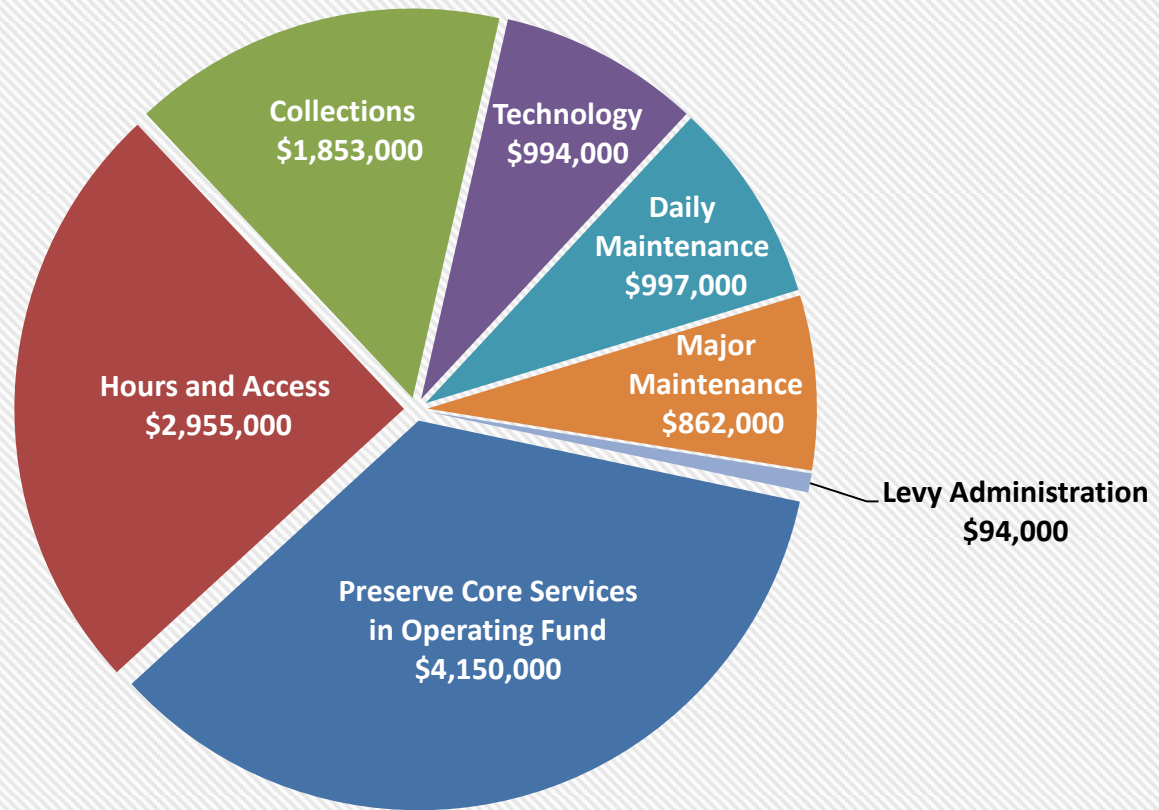
Maintenance = Sustainability

2013 Accomplishments

- Implemented a comprehensive preventive maintenance plan to extend the life of our facilities
- Increased building, custodial and engineering services
- Enhanced fire safety of stairwells, added sewer bypass and improved escalator safety at Central Library
- Improved parking lots at Columbia and Southwest branches
- Refurbished plaster ceiling at West Seattle Branch

2013 Levy Spending

Total Actual Spending - \$11.9 million



Public Engagement

2013 Accomplishments

- Sundays are Special celebrations
- Sunday hours survey
- Community Conversations

“There is nothing more important than listening to our patrons and delivering on our promises.”

**-Marcellus Turner,
city librarian**



Library Levy Oversight

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City Librarian

Marcellus Turner

www.spl.org/levy